

ABSTRACT

Methods, systems, and computer program products for using introspection for access to class resource bundle information for the display and update of pairs of related graphical user interface (“GUI”) panels. In preferred embodiments, a Java resource bundle is provided with a first array containing pairs of key strings and corresponding text blocks and a second array containing pairs of key strings and corresponding text blocks, with the first key identifying a list entry and the second key string identifying the text block corresponding to the list entry. Both the list entry and the text block are stored in the first array. This data structure is most advantageously used in the display of a pair of GUI panels each containing a Java JList, representing for example a list of help topics where the help text corresponds to a selected help topic. By introspecting the second array from the resource bundle, a mouse listener can efficiently find and display the help text corresponding to a topic selected by a mouse click; furthermore, the resource bundle can be updated without rebuilding the software accessing it.